

# News Advisory



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Pacific Migrations Visitor Center Grand Opening at New Brighton State Beach**

- WHO:** California State Parks, in cooperation with Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks
- WHAT:** Grand Opening of the **New Brighton State Beach "Pacific Migrations Visitor Center"**
- WHEN:** Friday April 7, 2006, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.
- WHERE:** The park is located off the Park Avenue exit of Highway 1 in Santa Cruz, CA.

The grand opening includes refreshments, a Chinese music performance by "Melody for Two Strings," history walks, and special guest speakers. See, explore and experience the stories of people, settlers and cultures that are a part of this region's rich history. The Pacific Migrations Visitor Center explores the many Pacific Rim migrations, both by people and by creatures of the air and sea.

The exhibits reveal the hidden histories of regional cultures at this innovative new visitor center, including the influence of the Portuguese, Chinese and other Pacific Rim cultures on regional economic development in fishing, agriculture, transportation, business and early tourism. One exhibit, China Beach, shows a life-size image of the Chinese Fishing Village that once existed at New Brighton State Beach—a village constructed completely of driftwood. Visitors also hear the stories of Portuguese fishing families. A digital video captures summers at Pot Belly Beach as part of a fifty-year chronicle of families and their summer cabins at New Brighton. The center also features a timed L.E.D. lighted display showing the natural migration of bird, animal and aquatic species that return each season.

For more information, please call State Park Interpreter Jodi Apelt at (831)335-1743, Pacific Migrations Interpreter Jeff Barnes at (831) 462-3113, Randy Widera, Executive Director, Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks at (831)429-1840.

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